

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Men of Galilee, why gaze in wonder at the heavens? This Jesus whom you saw ascending into heaven will return as you saw him go, alleluia.

GREETING

In the name of the Father... Amen.
The Lord be with you. And with your spirit

PENITENTIAL ACT

Lord Jesus, you came to gather the nations into the peace of God's kingdom: Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.** You come in word and sacrament to strengthen us in holiness: Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.** You will come in glory with salvation for your people: Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.** May almighty God have mercy on us....

THE GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will. We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great glory, Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father. Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us; you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer; you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

OPENING PRAYER

Grant, we pray, almighty God, that we, who believe that your Only Begotten Son, our Redeemer, ascended this day to the heavens, may in spirit dwell already in heavenly realms. Who lives and reigns

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING Acts 1: 1-11

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles
In my earlier work, Theophilus, I dealt with everything Jesus had done and taught from the beginning until the day he gave his instructions to the apostles he had chosen through the Holy Spirit, and was taken up to heaven. He had shown himself alive to them after his Passion by many demonstrations: for forty days he had continued to appear to them and tell them about the kingdom of God. When he had been at table with them, he had told them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for what the Father had promised. 'It is' he had said 'what you have heard me speak about: John baptised with water but you, not many days from now, will be baptised with the Holy Spirit.'

Now having met together, they asked him, 'Lord, has the time come? Are you going to restore the kingdom to Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know times or dates that the Father has decided by his own authority, but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and then you will be my witnesses not only in Jerusalem but throughout Judaea and Samaria, and indeed to the ends of the earth.'

As he said this he was lifted up while they looked on, and a cloud took him from their sight. They were still staring into the sky when suddenly two men in white were standing near them and they said, 'Why are you men from Galilee standing here looking into the sky? Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven, this same Jesus will come back in the same way as you have seen him go there.'

**The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.**

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps. 46:2-3, 6-9

R. God goes up with shouts of joy; the Lord goes up with trumpet blast or Alleluia!

1. All peoples, clap your hands, cry to God with shouts of joy! For the Lord, the Most High, we must fear, great king over all the earth. (R)
2. God goes up with shouts of joy; the Lord goes up with trumpet blast. Sing praise for God, sing praise, sing praise to our king, sing praise. (R)
3. God is king of all the earth. Sing praise with all your skill. God is king over the nations; God reigns on his holy throne. (R)

SECOND READING Ephesians 1: 17 - 23

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, give you a spirit of wisdom and perception of what is revealed, to bring you to full knowledge of him. May he enlighten the eyes of your mind so that you can see what hope his call holds for you, what rich glories he has promised the saints will inherit and how infinitely great is the power that he has exercised for us believers. This you can tell from the strength of his power at work in Christ, when he used it to raise him from the dead and to make him sit at his right hand, in heaven, far above every Sovereignty, Authority, Power, or Domination, or any other name that can be named, not only in this age, but also in the age to come. He has put all things under his feet, and made him as the ruler of everything, the head of the Church; which is his body, the fullness of him who fills the whole creation.

**The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! Go, make disciples of all the nations; I am with you always; yes, to the end of time. Alleluia!

GOSPEL Matthew 28:16-20

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

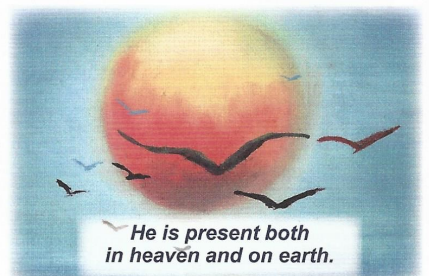
The eleven disciples set out for Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had arranged to meet them. When they saw him they fell down before him, though some hesitated. Jesus came up and spoke to them. He said, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, make disciples of all the nations; baptise them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teach them to observe all the commands I gave you. And know that I am with you always; yes, to the end of time.'

**The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,

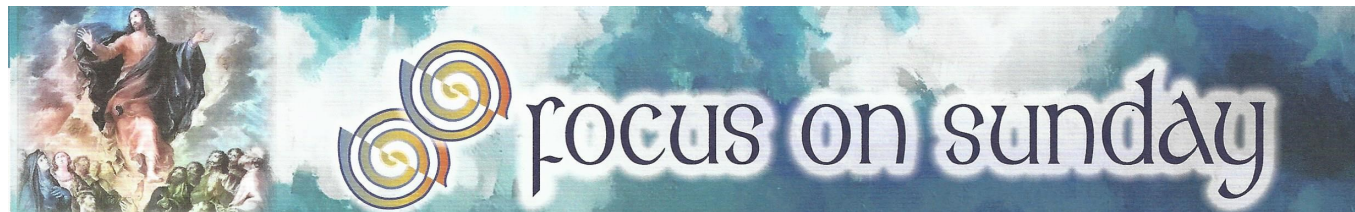
All bow for following two lines: who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; he descended into hell; on the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God, the Father almighty; from there he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.



He is present both in heaven and on earth.

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Pray brothers and sisters,.....
May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.



The Lord is absent: that was the first experience of Jesus' followers after his death. But even though he has returned to his Father, he is with us. Today's feast is the celebration that he is present both in heaven and on earth.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

We offer sacrifice now in supplication, O Lord, to honour the wondrous Ascension of your Son: grant, we pray, that through this most holy exchange we, too, may rise up to the heavenly realms. Through Christ our Lord.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

The Lord be with you. And with your spirit. Lift up your hearts. We lift them up to the Lord. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right and just.

SANCTUS

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

AFTER THE CONSECRATION

The mystery of faith.
Save us, Saviour of the world, for by your Cross and Resurrection you have set us free.

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

Behold the Lamb of God,
Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

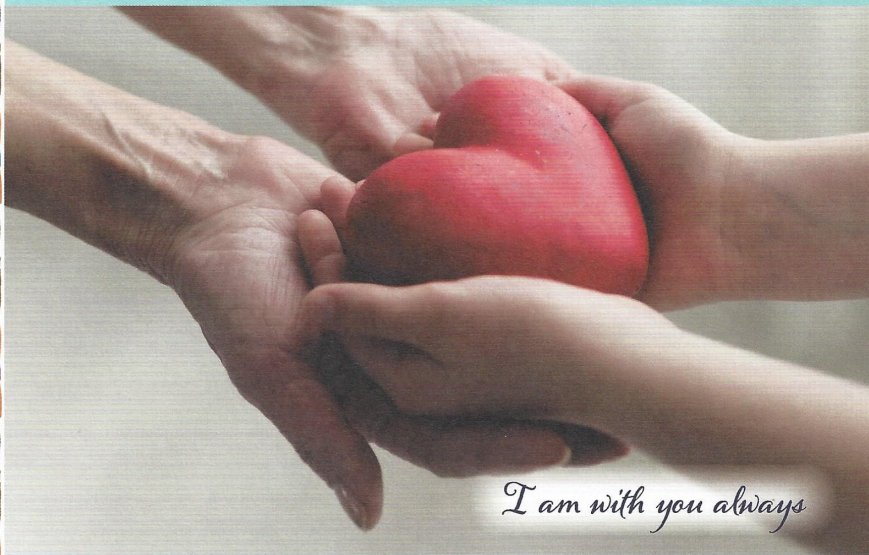
Behold, I am with you always, even to the end of the age, alleluia.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Almighty ever-living God, who allow those on earth to celebrate divine mysteries, grant, we pray, that Christian hope may draw us onward to where our nature is united with you. Through Christ our Lord.

CONCLUDING RITE

The Lord be with you. And with your spirit. May the blessing of almighty God, the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, come down on you and remain with you for ever. Amen
Go in peace. Thanks be to God.



Focus
Know that I am with you always; yes, to the end of time.
When children grow up and leave home to begin a life on their own, both parents and children feel the truth of those words, 'Know that I am with you always.' The child's leaving home may be necessary so their love for parents, and vice versa, can come to full bloom.

It was only many years after my parents were gone did I come to realise what a phenomenal blessing they had been to me. I shed my tears at their loss and wondered about getting on with life without them. Absence makes the heart grow fonder. Now, almost fifty years later, I feel stronger towards them than I did while they were alive.

Jesus told his disciples on the night before he died that unless he went away the Spirit would not come to them. The mystery of the Ascension celebrates the mysterious reality of Jesus' presence in his absence. Today's feast is not calling us to live in the darkness of Jesus' absence – sheer blind and cold faith in someone who is gone.

You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you (Acts 1).
The Ascension celebrates, rather, the work of the Holy Spirit making us aware of the deep richness of Jesus in our midst: the meaning of his life and miracles and words for us today, and the conviction that he is still alive and with us. When we feed the hungry, shelter the homeless, comfort the sick and incarcerated, we are serving the very person of Christ risen and living in people everywhere.

Absence makes the heart grow fonder. I feel stronger towards my parents now than I did while they were alive. Jesus said that "unless I go the Spirit cannot come." The Spirit brought home more clearly to the disciples who Jesus really was.

Fr. Joe Walsh

Jesus' Story

Fr. Liam Hickey

Jesus friends wanted Him to stay with them forever. Jesus told them that He will stay with them, but in a new way, through The Holy Spirit, in their hearts. When He was on the mountain leaving, He told His Friends to tell all people that they have Three Special Friends in HeavenGod the Father who makes the sun shine on everyone - the good, and not so good, Jesus who came at Christmas, to be our forever Friend, and The Holy Spirit who gives life to all things.

ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH, BALLYHAUNIS

PARISH NEWSLETTER 21st MAY 2023

Parish Priest: Fr. Stephen Farragher, 094-9630006 / 087-9210305

Email: ballyhaunisparish@gmail.com Parish Office: 094-9630006

PARISH WEBSITE: <http://www.ballyhaunisparish.ie>

PARISH RADIO: 105.2FM Newsletter on line: Parish website & www.mcnmedia.tv

Web-cam: <http://www.ballyhaunisparish.ie> or www.mcnmedia.tv

Local Safeguarding Representative (LSR) Jacinta Flynn, (contact the parish office)

Emergency numbers:

Knock: 094-9388100

Fr. Feeney, Ballinlough: 094-9640155

Fr. McGuinness, Bekan: 094-9313937

ANNIVERSARY MASSES 22nd—27th MAY 2023

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday 10.00am. Saturday 7.30pm.

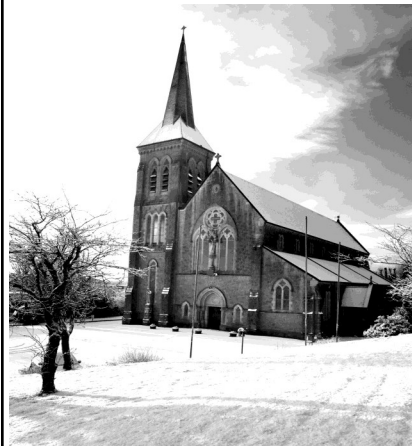
Tom Hopkins, Upper Main St.
Dora & Tom Forde, The Square
John & Sighle Forde, Clare St & The Square
Pado Moran, Ballindrehid
Michael & Mary Delia Waldron; Andrew & Delia Greally, Ballindrehid
Joe, Frank & John Clarke & decd. Holywell
Jim Culliney, Johnstown & decd.
Decd. Of the Gill & Heskin families
Judith Regan & decd. Killinaugher
Mamie & Michael Curley & decd. Main St.
Bertie Mulligan, Hazelhill
Pat, Patrick & Mary Ellen Regan, Derrynacong
Bridie, Séan & Frank Regan, Killinaugher
Patrick & Catherine Regan, Killinaugher
Mary & William Burke, Abbey St
Séan Biesty & decd. Carrowkeel
James Fitzmaurice & decd.
Séan & Maureen Cleary, Clare St.
John & Rita Creighton, Barnahesker, Kilkelly

22nd-28th May	READERS	MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST
Monday	Martin Fitzmaurice	Helen Freeley, Irene Healy
Tuesday	Tommy Caulfield	Frances Mulhern, Margaret Tarpey
Wednesday	Mary Donnelly	Margaret Byrne, Mary Freeley
Friday	Christina Concannon	Willie Broderick, Kay Curley
Saturday 7.30pm	John Doyle	Breda Davis, Mary T. Griffin, Eavan Caulfield, Jacinta Flynn
Sunday 10am	Frank Browne	Kay Curley, Breege Halpin, Deirdre Browne, Geraldine Murphy

WORLD COMMUNICATIONS DAY: The Pope's message for World Communications Day 2023 is to reflect on "speaking from the heart". Pope Francis says "only by listening and speaking with a pure heart can we see beyond appearances and overcome the indistinct noise that, even in the field of information, does not help us to discern in the complexity of the world in which we live. The appeal to speak from the heart radically challenges our time, so prone to indifference and indignation, sometimes even on the basis of disinformation, which falsifies and exploits the truth".

From the message of the Holy Father for World Communications Day 2023.

Recently Deceased—We remember in our prayers
Mary Flanagan Feeney, Devlis & formerly of Crossard, Tooreen



MASSES:

Monday, Tuesday,
Wednesday, Friday 10.00am.
Saturday Evening Vigil:
7.30pm
Sunday: 10.00am.

CONFESSIONS:

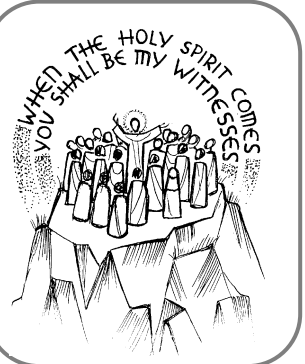
Before Saturday Vigil Mass

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Each day on selected hours
between 9am & 7pm

BAPTISMS

First Saturday & third Sunday
of the month at 11.00am.
Minimum of four weeks'
notice required. Contact the
parish office, 094-9630006.



CONFIRMATION: Congratulations to the students and adults who were confirmed here in St. Patrick's Church on Saturday 20th May by Archbishop Francis Duffy. We wish them all God's blessings:

Skaiste Aleksiuonaite	Abbie Gildea	Shane Nolan
Edward Allen	Eoin Higgins	Abbi Norrby McGrath
Auguste Armonaviciute	Erin Higgins	James O'Laughin
Samuel Balik Nowak	Michaela Kavanagh	Eileen O'Toole
Connor Bann	Anna Kelly	Andras Connor Penzes
Lukas Barcanec	Matas Kucinskas	Karl Rattigan
Karina Bilinskaite	Carlos Henrique Lima Rocha	Anna Estela Romao
Jack Cleary	Vitor Gabriel Lima Rocha	Dylan Ryan
Terry Collins	Andrea Lupinkova	Santana Ryan
Cathal Conlon	Micheala Maughan	Caio Gabriel da Silva
Katie Conlon	Noah Maughan	Arunas Vaitiekus
Alice Curran	Simon McDonagh	Neo Vasiljevic
Declan Daly	Annabelle McGowan	Zara Waldron
Abigail Dixon	Jake McNamara	Cara Walsh
Aibhe Donnellan	Alexia Medesan	Andrea Ward
Séan Donnellan	Christian Kave de Souza Mendes	Nikita Webb
Jamie Doyle	Kate Monaghan	Emilis Ziziunas
Kevin Dunkers	Mariah Mongan	Paulo Rogeris da Silva
Evan Feeney	Cian Murphy	Cassio Fernando dos Santos
Charlie Finn	Róisín Murphy	Carlos Juliano dos Santos
Oisín Finnegan	Henzio Neves	Inara Gabryely da Silva
Ben Gallagher	Jeff Nolan	Arthur do Silva Oliveira

All weekday and weekend Masses, and the daily Rosary at 9.00pm Mondays to Fridays continue to be broadcast on parish radio 105.2FM and streamed on the parish webcam: <https://www.mcnmedia.tv/camera/st-patricks-church-ballyhaunis> or on the website: www.ballyhaunisparish.ie.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION: 33 hours Eucharistic Adoration takes place in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel, Knock Shrine from 9am on Thursday next 25th May, concluding on Friday 26th at 7pm with Mass. The hour for Ballyhaunis parish is 5am to 6am on Friday, praying for bishops, priests, vocations to the priesthood and religious life, renewal of faith and family life.

BALLYHAUNIS COMMUNITY COUNCIL AGM will be held on Wed. 24th May in the Community Hall. New members are welcome. Topics for discussion include ongoing management of the Community Hall, ideas for new activities and training / educational courses to be held there, Local Link rural bus services, proposals for the development/ enhancement of Island Lake, the Language Café & more. Reports from the Abbey Partnership / Abbey Trust, the Tidy Towns Committee and Ballyhaunis Defibrillator Group will also feature.

NOVENA FOR LIFE: The Pray for Life Novena, which starts this Tuesday 23rd May and concludes on the Feast of the Visitation on Wed. 31st May, is an invitation to join thousands of people across Ireland to pray for the protection of human life. Visit www.prayforlife.ie for the daily Novena prayers.

PPC MEETING: The next meeting of the Parish Pastoral Council will take place on Monday evening 22nd May at 8.30pm in the Community Hall.

VACANCY: The Irish Catholic Bishops' Conference, based in St. Patrick's College, Maynooth, wishes to appoint an Accounts Administrator to support its finance team. Closing date is next Wednesday 24th May. For more information and job description, visit www.catholicbishops.ie

MAYO PPN COMMUNITY OPEN EVENING takes place on Tuesday 23rd May at 7pm in Breaffy House Hotel, Castlebar. Hear all about the new Community Climate Action Fund and find out what's happening around climate action in Mayo. Meet Mayo Person of the Year Darren Forde who will launch the Wellbeing Vision Statement for Co. Mayo. To register, email mayoppn@mayococo.ie

BEGINNERS GOLF—Introductory evening in Ballyhaunis Golf Club on Thursday 25th May for novices, or those looking to return to golf. 10 lessons for €60. All equipment provided. For more details, contact Dee at 086 3821432 or Trish at 086 3745061.

SET DANCING CLASSES with Gráinne Kelly will start on Monday 22nd May at 8pm in the Community Hall. €10 per class. All welcome. For details, call 087 9777899.

Offertory Collection
14th May 2023
€1,821